GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3609
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004
INTERNATIONAL CALL RACKET IN UTTAR PRADESH
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI had raided the departmental store in Uttar Pradesh Telecom Circle (East) and an international call racket was detected in telephone exchange situated in Lucknow;

(b) if so, the latest details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any investigation report in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or being taken by the Government on the basis of investigation report?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) :

(i) Joint surprise check on 10th, 11th and 12th March, 2004 was conducted by Department and CBI at the departmental store in Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh Telecom Circle (East). During inspection it was observed that some obsolete technology stores (like stronger exchange spares, MDF accessories etc. lying since the late 80`s) were not entered in the records.

(ii) A call racket was detected on 28.05.2001 in telephone exchange situated in Lucknow by Special Task Force (STF), UP Police. A first Information Report (FIR) was lodged on 31.05.2001 by them. Departmental investigation was done and it was found that a spurious code `40`, without metering and with an open numbering scheme, was opened in the exchange. This code was misused for making STD/ISD calls. 13 departmental officers have been found involved. Action initiated in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission.